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Volume I

Number 1

The Rhodes Family in America

PUBLISHED BY

Nelson Osgood Rhoades
1208 Merchants Nat. Bank Bldg.
Los Angeles, California



P U R P O S E

To secure the cooperation of all the members of the family in the preparation of a history, biography and genealogy of all branches of the family in America and their foreign ancestry.

Published Three Times Each Year
Subscription Fifty Cents Per Year

INTRODUCTION

Preliminary Bulletin Number 1, issued in June, 1919, has established communication with several thousand members of the family, bringing a response quite as enthusiastic and interesting as unexpected. To meet this newly awakened interest it has seemed necessary to republish the content of Bulletin Number 1, and to provide a means of maintaining the working relation between correspondents thus established.

The "Rhodes Family in America" will be published hereafter three times each year, in its present form. The expense will be borne by the writer and the amount received from subscription (necessary to maintain its circulation under the law) will cover but a small portion of its cost.

The writer has been engaged for many years in the preparation of a Genealogy and Family History of the Rhodes Family in America, and at large cost of money and outlay of time devoted to research work has accumulated many volumes of genealogical, historical and biographical material, well authenticated, covering the subject. The work is being done at his exclusive expense.

While historical investigations at home and abroad are under way, and their results are being compiled and recorded, it is essential that the local history and genealogy of the various living members in America, together with that of their ancestors, be secured. This can only be done through the active co-operation of the living members of the tribe of Rhodes.

The fundamental elements of the history of all branches of the family will be published in these bulletins, affording a guide to those who are in a position and mood to co-operate in the general work. A history of the family will be published for general circulation when the work is completed. The writer is fifty years of age and hopes to complete the work during his lifetime, but should the work be uncompleted at his death, his records and manuscripts will be given to some historical library for publication or reference use, unless, in the meantime, some younger member of the Rhodes family be found who is capable, able and disposed to take the records and complete the work.

Every individual member of the family in this or other countries is earnestly requested to aid in the gathering of data, biography and vital statistics related to the subject. The writer will classify all matter submitted and, after due verification, include it in the final record.

Each person is requested to furnish all data available referring to himself or herself and any other members of the family, either by blood or marriage. That data should comprise, in full or in part, the following information regarding each individual, to-wit:

1. Their full name and present address, if living.
2. The place and date of their birth.
3. The place and date of their marriage.
4. The place and date of their death.
5. The same data as to each wife.
6. The same data as to each child.
7. The same data as to each ancestor, as far as possible.
8. State the source of the information given, whether from personal knowledge, hearsay, or written record as of family Bibles or otherwise.
9. The biography of each individual.

Correspondence is invited relating to those lines under study or those completed, and both aid and information will be cheerfully given to those desirous of working out their own individual lines.

The Rhodes Family in America

(Derived from a common spelling, but through development, choice and environment variously spelled as Rods, Rodes, Roads, Roades, Rhods, Rhodes, Rhoades and Rode.)

Probably no one of the Colonial families of the present United States has been more constantly maintained or more numerously extended through both male and female lines. From the most trustworthy statistics available, it is estimated that there are now in the country more than fifty thousand representatives of the male lines alone, carrying the names of Rhodes in some form of its spelling.

Although less than fifty immigrant ancestors of the Rhodes family are recorded prior to the Revolution, the census of 1790 records the following members, to-wit:

North Carolina	381.	From original families.
Pennsylvania	322.	From original families.
Massachusetts	223.	From original families.
New York	215.	From Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
Rhode Island	145.	From original families.
Virginia	137.	From original families.
Maryland	109.	From Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
South Carolina	92.	From original families.
Connecticut	66.	From Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
Vermont	45.	From Rhode Island and Connecticut.
Maine	38.	From Massachusetts.
New Hampshire	11.	From Massachusetts.
Total	1784	

Every profession, trade and calling has been represented by men and women of this name, whose achievements have been creditably recorded in the various histories of their times. A false modesty has accounted for the fact that no general history of the family in America has ever been written.

Genealogically, somewhere in the past, the various branches of the family in this country probably originate from a common ancestor bearing the name, but the efforts thus far made to establish that origin are but a beginning.

A generation ago the number of independent families of that name was thought to have been large, but subsequent investigation has reduced the number, by a proven common origin, to about ten principal lines, which number will probably be greatly reduced at an early day through the completion of genealogical studies now under way.

PRE-REVOLUTIONARY COLONIAL FAMILIES

The ten general branches of the American family are the following, to-wit:

1. ZACHARIAH RHODES OF RHODE ISLAND

He came to Massachusetts after the landing of the Mayflower, and resided at Rehobeth, from which place he was banished, in 1646, for religious reasons. He is said by many to have been a brother of Henry Rhoades (spelled Rhodes in early records), of Lynn. He went to Providence and later to Warwick, Rhode Island, where he and his descendants became men of prominence and wealth, and have maintained his fine record untarnished to the present day.

Branches of his family found their way into Connecticut, and from there northward, through Massachusetts, into Vermont. In later generations they are found, chiefly, in New York, Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota and, less numerously, in many other states.

This family has had a remarkable record in the naval, military and political life of the country. Large numbers of its members are qualified for membership in the societies of Americans of Royal Descent, the Mayflower, Colonial Wars, Sons of the Revolution, George Washington, and others.

Should it finally be proven that Zachariah was a brother of Henry, of Lynn, his English ancestry will have been found, otherwise it is as yet unknown.

2. HENRY RHOADES OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

He was born in Lancashire, England, in 1608, came to Massachusetts about 1640, and is said by some authorities to have been a brother of Zachariah, of Rehobeth, banished to Rhode Island.

This family is said to have come from Wales, originally. The old Rhodes castle still remains and possesses a coat of arms bearing the legend, "Better death than dishonor." The first of the name found in Wales was Gregory of Rhodes, from the Island of Rhodes, hence the name. In this branch the "Rhodes" was transformed into "Rhoades" in the second generation.

This branch has been prolific and its members are found in nearly every state of the Union. They have been largely farmers, ministers, lawyers, doctors and bankers. Numerous representatives of the original family still reside in Lynn.

A five-hundred-page genealogy of this family, in manuscript form, has been prepared by the writer and will be ready for publication in 1922.

The family history shows eligibility to the Societies of Americans of Royal Descent, Colonial Wars, Sons of the Revolution, Patriots and Founders, and others.

3. JOHN RHOADS OF WINEGREAVES, ENGLAND, AND DARBY, PENNSYLVANIA

This is the representative Quaker branch of the family.

John of Winegreaves was born in Darbyshire, England, and came to Darby, Pennsylvania, before 1700.

The family originates from Baron Gerard de Rodes, who came from France to England in about 1140, during the reign of Henry II. Seventeen generations thereafter John of Winegreaves, a representative member, became a Quaker and removed to the new world. A large number of celebrated estates remain in possession of the British descendants of the family in England, and have been frequently visited by American members of that lineage.

It appears that at about the time Baron Gerard went to Britain, one brother went to Germany and another to Spain. Of the Spanish branch a representative member is now a Minister in the King's Cabinet. Descendants of the German branch came later to America and are found in the State of Wisconsin.

Excellent histories of certain branches of the American descendants of this family have been published in the "Maulsby Family" by Ella K. Barnard, Baltimore, 1909, and the "Clovercroft Chronicles," by Mary Rhoads Haines, published by J. B. Lippincott Company.

This is one of the most notable families in the country. Through all the generations of their American life they have held with unvarying constancy to those high ideals of living, social intercourse and patriotism which inspired their early progenitors. Many of the enterprises established by the early branches of the family still remain, in highly developed and modern condition, in the possession of their descendants of this generation.

4. BENJAMIN RHODES OF KIPPAX, WEST RIDING, COUNTY YORK, ENGLAND

Benjamin came to Sunk Island in 1792, died there on May 4, 1856, and left descendants. He married Mary Hawkins, who died in 1824.

5. JOHN RHODES OF VIRGINIA

This branch came early to the Americas and became prominent in the affairs of the Colony, afterward found in Tennessee and Kentucky.

6. JOHN RHOADS OF NORTH CAROLINA

He was one of the earliest American Ancestors, and from him have sprung the most numerous branch on this continent, although their record is very obscure, due to the destruction of the historical archives of the Southern states.

7. JOHN RHODES OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Born in 1671, he was the grandson of Sir Godfrey Rhodes, of Rowden, Yorkshire, England. His son, Captain Simon Rhodes, was in Stonington, Connecticut, before 1759, where he married Martha Babcock. Their descendants intermarried with the Woodbridges, Maxsons, Rogers, Greens, Coopers and Huntings, and established an extensive family in that region.

8. JOHN RHOADES OF ENGLAND AND NEW YORK

John Rhoades, said to have been born in England, was in Scarsdale, Westchester County, New York, in 1711. His descendants, Isaac, John, James, Charity, Cornelius, Anthony, and others, through intermarriage with the Hills, Marginsons, Queens, Secors, and others, established a large community in that region.

It is possible John may be descended from some other original Colonial line. A partial history of this family is found in the Couch Family Genealogy.

9. JOHN ROAD OF PENNSYLVANIA

Representative of the Mennonite branch of the family, he founded their meeting at Parker's Ford, Schuylkill Road, Pennsylvania, and married Catherine Holderman. The second generation, during the revolutionary times, changed the name to Rhoades.

They intermarried with the Baidlers, Longstreths and Detwellers, and scattered over Pennsylvania and Ohio.

They may later be proven to have descended from some other of the principal branches above given. A partial history of his descendants is found in the Smedley Genealogy by Gilbert Cope, published by Wickersham Printing Company, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 1901.

10. ALEXANDER RHODES OF CONNECTICUT

He was born in 1759, and through his descendants, Levi, Prudence, Chauncey, Theodore, William, George, Caroline, Nancy, and others, and their intermarriage with the families of Steel, Morris, Sage, Coleman, Tryon, Caswell, Baker and Wrights, established large families in Wethersfield, Hartford, and elsewhere.

He was probably descended from one of the above Colonial families.

The following families are of independent origin, but not strictly pre-Revolutionary Colonial stock:

11. The descendants of **Henry Rhoads**, who was born in Germany in 1739 and died in Logan County, Kentucky, in 1814, and who was "The Godfather of Mulesburg County, Kentucky," founding a numerous family of patriotic pioneers and later generators of distinguished citizens.

12. **Henry Roth (Rhoads)** of Pfeduschein, Switzerland, who immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1733.

13. **Henry Rhodes**, who immigrated to America from Frankfort-on-the-Main in 1750, dying on the voyage, and his sons, Harmon and John Henry, who settled in Huron, Pennsylvania.

14. **John Adams Rhodes**, who immigrated to America from the Palatinate, in 1750, becoming an Ohio pioneer.

15. **George Rhoades**, who immigrated to America from the Palatinate, in 1750, and settled in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, thence to New York.

16. **Francis Rhodes**, who immigrated to Maryland from England in 1700.

17. **John Rhodes**, who came from England to Lawrence, Massachusetts in 1820.

DETACHED BRANCHES OF THE COLONIAL FAMILIES

The following families are genealogically well known, subsequent to the time of their founders, but their previous genealogy and additional facts as to their descendants are sought, to-wit:

1. **Benjamin Rhoades**, born about 1750 to 1765, who married Judith Richmond and lived in Wallingford, Vermont.

2. **Asa Rhoads**, born in 1763, married Lucy Comstock, of Smithfield, Rhode Island, and lived in Richmond, Vermont. His descendants, Lucy, Daniel, Rachel, Cornelius, Peltiah, Josephine, and others, intermarried with the families of Russell, Jewells, Smith, Jones, Chamberlains, Barneys, Barbers, and Westons.

3. **Michael Rhodes**, of Maine, born in Berwick before 1690. His descendants, Miles, Jacob, Charity, Sarah, Patience, and others, intermarried with the Donnely, Cross, Grover, Huff and Wildes families.

4. **Solomon Rhodes**, of New Hampshire. He was born in Marlborough, Massachusetts, and, with his son, Solomon, and possibly others, went to Antrim, N. H., in or before 1783. Through his descendants, Reuben, Amos, Chesterfield, Silas, Nancy, and others, intermarried with the families of Fairbanks, Hayward, Ballou, Taylor, Gale, Sleeper, Stickney, Lyon, Johnson, and others, he left a numerous progeny.

COMPLETED WORKS (In Typewritten Form)

The writer has now completed extensive work covering the following subjects:

- a. **A Chart of the Zachariah Rhodes lines.** The genealogy of this family is in preparation and the chart is as complete as the data at hand to the date of its publication.
- b. **A Manuscript Genealogy, of 500 pages, of Henry Rhoades, of Lynn, Massachusetts.**
- c. **A Chart of the Family of Henry Rhoades, of Lynn.**
- d. **A Genealogical Chart of the descendants of John Rhoads, of Wlnegreaves, England, and Darby, Pennsylvania.**
- e. **A Genealogical Chart of the descendants of John Rhodes, of Providence, Rhode Island, and Stonington, Connecticut.**
- f. **A Genealogical Chart of the descendants of John Rhoades, of England and Scarsdale, New York.**
- g. **A Genealogical Chart of John Road, the Mennonite, of Pennsylvania.**
- h. **A Genealogical Chart of the descendants of Alexander Rhodes, of Connecticut.**
- i. **Genealogical Chart of Benjamin Rhoades, of Vermont.**
- j. **Genealogical Chart of Asa Rhodes, of Rhode Island, Vermont and Massachusetts.**
- k. **Genealogical Chart of Michael Rhodes, of Maine.**
- l. **Genealogical Chart of Solomon Rhoades, of New Hampshire.**

Copies of the above, except No. b, will be furnished free to those who will furnish substantial additional matter to their contents. They will be furnished at actual cost to interested members of the family, and will be furnished to interested persons outside the family at a price to be quoted. The real object of their preparation is to encourage their extension and completion.

Introducing the Publisher:

NELSON OSGOOD RHOADES

Consulting Engineer by profession.

Member of the firm of Garfield & Rhoades, Latin-American Counsellors and Fiscal Agents, with offices in Cleveland, Ohio, Mexico City, Mexico, and Los Angeles, California.

Member of the following Clubs and Societies:

The American Academy of Science.
The Pacific Astronomical Society.
The Colorado Scientific Society.
The Sons of the Revolution.
The Society of Colonial Wars.
The Order of Founders and Patriots of America.
The Order of Washington.
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The Masonic Order, and other Fraternal Societies.

Life Member:

National Geographic Society.
The New England Historic Genealogical Society.
The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society.
The Mayflower Society.
The National Historical Society.

Permanent Address:

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THE FAMILY OF RHODES

"Birth conveys no merit, but much duty, to its inheritor."
—Lord Clarendon.

Froissart is authority for the statement that "The de Rhodes, hereditary Knights of Flanders, came over to England with the Earl of Flanders and Tofti, Harold's brother, to assist William the Conqueror." (Volume I, page 121.)

Origin of the English House

The Domesday book records the fact that two warriors accompanying the conqueror, Willemus and Hugh by name, were granted, doubtless as a reward for their services, the "Moiety of Rodes." This estate was located where the little village of Rode is now situated, in the County of Chester, near the present silk-producing center of Macclesfield, about 40 miles southeast from Liverpool.

Willemus had a son, Michael, who was known as Michael de Rodes, and his descendants may be traced through the Domesday book, tax rolls, civil and court records, to the present time, carrying that name in some form of the many spellings common to history.

Origin of the French House

These brothers came over between 1066 and 1100. Hugh disappears from English records soon after their arrival. It is presumed that he returned to Normandy.

At about that time the Counts de Rodez appear in France, their founder being "Hugh I," Count de Rodez, and their seat the town of "Rodes" in Averon, Languedoc.

The town of Rodes is now a prosperous one of about twelve thousand population, is the capital of the Department of Avignon, and lies about three hundred miles southeast from Paris.

Origin of the Palatinate Family

During the reign of Louis XIV (1643 to 1715) a large number of Huguenots fled from France to Germany, particularly to the Palatinate, which was a German state until 1620, when it was divided into the Bavarian and the lower, or Rhine Palatinate.

At that time the name of Rohde, Rhodes, or other forms of its spelling, appears and continues to appear thereafter in the records of vital history of those countries. The coats of arms of the Palatinate families are a true composite of the German, and the French coast of Rodez. Descendants of these families are found in America.

Development of the English House

Froissart, volume 10, page 354: "The counts de'Armagnach and Rhodes came from Normandy with Henry II and Margaret, his mother."

From Burke's "Commoners of Great Britain" we learn that, the family of Rhodes or Rhoades is of great antiquity, having flourished for several centuries in the Counties of Nottingham, Lincoln, York and Derby.

"The first settler on record in England, of this family, was Gerard de Rodes, a feudal baron, the capital seat of whose barony was Horn Castle in Lincolnshire. Camden says Horn Castle was a soke or seignory of thirteen lordships and Gerard de Rodes was, consequently, one of the greater barons; his absence as ambassador will account for his name not occurring on the Roll of Magna Charta, he 'having been sent by King John, 29th March, in the 9th year of his reign, ambassador to foreign parts.'"

"It is not known when the Baronetsy became extint, but the lands of Horn Castle were lost in the reign of Richard II." (See Camden's Britanea, Lincolnshire, page 418.)

Baron Gerard de Rodes received from Richard I the lordships of Langar and Barneston, in Nottinghamshire. They were confirmed in him by King John.

Thornton, writing in 1677, says these lordships were united before Normon times, having been first granted to William Peverill, "Peverill of the Peaks." They later passed into possession of Baron Gerard de Rodes. They were previously, at some time, owned by Earl Howe.

Baron Gerard also owned the estates of "Clifton and Wilford," of Nottinghamshire, previously owned by William Peverill. They came to him during the reign of King John. They passed to Ralph de Rodes, his son, "a very great man," who owned them during the 6th Henry III.

Clifton and Wilford passed to Gerard, Lord of Melles, at the end of the reign of Henry or beginning of that of Edward I, and he granted them to Sir Gervase de Clifton, Steward to Sir Ralph de Rodes.

The estate of Barton, owned by Baron Gerard, followed that of Clifton and Wilford.

Ann Clifton, directly descended from Sir Gervase, married Sir Francis, directly descended from Baron Gerard; he being the second Baronet of Barlborough.

Of the thirteen lordships composing the soke of Horn Castle, of the family de Rodes, most of those seem to have been divided or disposed of in Nottinghamshire, and others in Yorkshire and Derby retained, and to these the principal branches of the family removed.

This seat of the family in Derbyshire was founded by William Rodes, who married Emme, daughter and heiress of John Cachehors or Cachehaus, of Staveley, Woodthorpe.

The Derbyshire Charter, compiled by Isaac H. Jeanes, quotes: "No. 902, Sale for £17.10.0, by Henry Gray, Knight, Lord Gray of Codnor and Dame Margaret, his wife, for William Rodes (or Rodes) of Nottinghamshire, of all trees, wood, etc., lying between Botery (Butterly) Park and Codnor Park to Michaelmas, 1478. Dated April 14, Edward VI (1421) (Vol. IV, 22)."

Also: "904. Power of attorney from Robert Remstone, Esq., to Wm. Chadwyk and William Rodes to receive lands in Codnor, dated August 27, 14 Edward IV (1474) (Wall IV, 21)."

This seems to have remained the seat of the family until Barlborough Hall was built by Judge Francis Rodes, whose son, Sir John, Knight, sold Staveley Woodthorpe and made Barlborough the permanent residence.

The periods of residence on the Rhodes estates above referred to were as follows: Horn Castle, Clifton Wilford and Barton Notts., from about 1154 to 1470; Staveley Woodthorpe, Derbyshire, about 1470 to 1600; Barlborough, Derbyshire, about 1600 to the present time.

History seems to support the conclusion that:

Willemus and Hugh came to England during the Norman Conquest.

Willemus remained and through his son, Michael de Rode, established the "Moiety of Rode," their line continuing to the present time.

Hugh returned to France and established the family of the Counts de Rodez.

The French family spread to Germany and the Palatinate and established branches.

The Norman family sent its descendant, Baron Gerard de Rodes, back to England and through him an English branch was established which continues to the present date.

Representatives of all these branches have immigrated to America and to some one thereof all families carrying the name of Rhodes in this country, whatever the form of its spelling, owe their origin and can probably count the father of Willemus and Hugh as their common ancestor.



Some Ancestral Lines of the Rhoades Family in America

The accompanying chart shows in tabulated form the results of research thus far made with the purpose of establishing the foreign ancestral identity of the American branches of the Rhodes family. This is a progressive study-chart, and must not be taken as final authority upon the subject. Proofs have developed to the point of justifying this statement of facts with the qualifications hereinafter given.

Important documents referring to this subject exist in great numbers in the hands of Rhodes descendants in America. They should be brought to light and their evidence recorded in this study. That is the purpose of this publication.

The conclusions shown, while not final, are supported by historical statements which have not thus far been disproved. The present purpose is to establish final and unquestionable proof of them or to disprove them entirely. To that end correspondence is desired.

Family Establishment Prior to 1500

Four authorities are quoted for the origin and descent of the British house which sent immigrants to America. Each of these four authorities agree that their line culminates in Francis Rodes, who was a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas during the reign of Queen Elizabeth in 1585. The first three authorities differ in minor parts as to the line of descent, probably having confused the members of secondary descent with those of direct descent, in some instances. The fourth authority, made up in fact of many, parallels the other three only in the final culmination with Francis Rodes.

The first three authorities quoted take their information from the College of Heraldry of Great Britain, and that college concerns itself largely with direct lines of descent. As the direct line is broken at times and succeeded by secondary representatives of the family, probably accounting for the discrepancy, the difference between these authorities becomes of but little consequence in these studies. With regard to the fourth authority, however, there is yet much to be studied. It goes further into the record of the secondary representatives of families than the other authorities, and it is very possible that the research now under way in Great Britain may finally disclose a harmony of records. With a single exception the American families are thought to have found their ancestry in the English family subsequent to the time of Francis, which period is the one of more important consideration.

The French and Palatinate branch has been studied geographically only. Its origin is known, but the genealogy of the three brothers, Henry, Hugues and Louis, subsequent to their leaving France, has not been traced.

The Family in England from 1500 to the American Emigration

The authority for this division of the chart is the British College of Heraldry, and all the facts contained therein are duly substantiated. A number of other branches of the house of Rodes exist in Great Britain, equally well known and pedigreed, but the present studies involve no necessity of reference to them. Later studies may disclose that they, also, sent immigrants to America.

The American Family

The final purpose of this investigation is to disclose the descent of the American branches of the family of Rodes from specific foreign ancestors. In the following discussion the lines will be referred to as numbered in Bulletin No. 1.

Line No. 1, Zachariah Rhodes of Rhode Island, and Line No. 2, Henry Rhodes of Lynn. Zachariah was born in Lancashire, England, in 1603, and died in Rhode Island in 1665. Henry was born in Lancashire, England, in 1608, and died in Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1675. Historians have frequently recorded them as brothers. The chart records that both were sons of Walter Rhodes (of the fourth British line, Willemus), who immigrated to America in 1620 to 1640. American history locates Henry in Lynn, Massachusetts, on or before 1637, and Zachariah in Rehobeth, Massachusetts, he having afterward been banished from that colony for "being in the way of dipping." Walter Rhodes was a prominent, though not extensively noted, citizen of Providence, Rhode Island, for a time. The proofs thus far examined support the historical statement that Henry and Zachariah are descended from Walter, but they are not conclusive, and investigation should be carried to a more definite determination.

Line No. 3, John Rhodes of Wingreaves. From the investigation thus far made there seems no reason to doubt that John of Wingreaves was descended from Francis Rhodes, but at just what point in that lineage his first ancestor is found has not yet been determined. It was formerly asserted that John of Sturton was his father, but all of the issue of John of Sturton have now been otherwise accounted for. That John of Wingreaves is descended from Francis there can be no question, and it is hoped that early investigation will disclose his first ancestor.

Line No. 5, John Rhodes of Virginia. There seems no reason to question the authorities that John of Virginia was descended from Charles, the son of John of Sturton, as shown on the chart, although absolute written record has not been found establishing that fact.

Line No. 16, Maryland, 1700. This line has not been fully organized, but its records are more or less complete.

Line No. 7, John Rhodes of Westerly, Rhode Island. His descent from Sir Edward, son of Sir Godfrey, is definitely established.

Lines Nos. 12, 13, 14 and 15 from the Palatinate. The origin of these lines in America and their place of origin abroad has been established beyond question. The link of ancestry between the time of their coming to America and the Huguenot exodus from France to the Palatinate has not been traced.

Whether the studies now under way will show the ancestry of line No. 6, John Rhoads, of North Carolina; Line No. 8, John Rhoades, of New York; Line No. 9, John Road, of Pennsylvania, and Line No. 10, Alexander Rhodes, of Connecticut, to have had their ancestry through the lines shown on the present chart, or from independent ones, is as yet unknown.

It is believed that the ancestry shown by the chart is substantially correct, and it is hoped that the present generation will persevere in its determination to finally establish all of the requisite proofs.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



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PROGRESS NUMBER

February, 1920

Volume 1 Number 3

The Rhodes Family in America

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RHOADES

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"The virtue of a people is tested by the degree of honor it bestows upon its dead."

ANNOUNCEMENT

Colonial Families of the United States of America

The publisher of the "Rhodes Family" has recently acquired the business and copyrights of the Seaforth Press, of Baltimore, Maryland, through which his publications will hereafter issue.

The Seaforth Press owns the copyrights for the COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, founded and edited by Mr. George Norbury Mackenzie, now deceased. This work will hereafter be edited and published by Nelson Osgood Rhoades.

The COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA was founded in 1907 and has now published six volumes 8vo., averaging 700 pages each. Its seventh volume is on the press and will be distributed at an early date; the eighth, ninth and tenth volumes are in the course of preparation.

This is the most extensive and authentic work published in the United States devoted exclusively to well authenticated pedigrees and family coats-of-arms. The published volumes contain over 700 complete pedigrees of American families whose ancestors settled in America prior to the Battle of Lexington in 1775, the recorded history of more than 1200 immigrant ancestors of these families and more than 150,000 names other than those subject of the pedigrees.

The volumes are handsomely bound and fully indexed. They constitute invaluable works of reference for libraries of public and private character and all institutions and societies interested in the subject of the life history of the Nation.

Full sets of these books are found in over 200 libraries of the world and incomplete sets in above 300 others. Requests for information will be gladly attended. Volume vii, now on the press, will contain one long line descended from Henry Rhodes, of Lynn, and another of descent from Zachariah, of Rhode Island.

PROGRESS NOTES

Detached line Number 1, Bulletin 1, has been definitely identified as descendant from Henry, of Lynn: *Henry, Samuel, Obadiah, Obadiah, Benjamin.*

The detached line Number 2, of Asa Rhoads, referred to in Bulletin No. 1, has been located, also, as a branch of Line No. 2, Henry, of Lynn. Asa went into Vermont in 1814 and contributed a large posterity to the genealogical tangle of the tribe of Rhodes in that state. The discovery of his ancestry has greatly aided in clearing away the Vermont confusion. The genealogy of his line is now in our files, subject to the call of interested parties. Asa's family resided in the vicinity of Sudbury.

Detached line No. 4, Bulletin No. 1, Solomon Rhodes, has been identified as descendant from Henry, of Lynn.

Principal line No. 10, Bulletin No. 1, Alexander Rhodes, of Connecticut, has been worked back another generation to William "Roods," his father, who may be the immigrant ancestor,—not yet conclusively finished.

* * *

Another and much more numerous branch of the Vermont family has been traced to ancestry reaching to Zachariah of Rhode Island. William of Warwick, 1772, went into Vermont before 1800, raised thirteen children who contributed a progeny to Vermont tribe. A few of their descendants remain in the vicinity of Richmond. The genealogy of this branch may now be referred to in our files.

* * *

From this family a valuable contribution has come to our hands, consisting of thirty-six volumes of manuscript diary written by H. Nelson Rhodes of Richmond, from 1850 to 1886. This is one of the most excellent works of the kind in existence. Painstakingly written, it is fairly teeming with the vital statistics of Vermont from 1800 to 1886, and is a most interesting contribution to Vermont Vital History.

* * *

From the same source we have the ledger of William Rhodes, Warwick, 1772, and covering the accounts of the family from 1790 to 1850, kept in the handwriting of its owners. Containing, as it does, personal accounts with the principal citizens of Vermont during that period, it also has the autographic signature of most of them, signed from year to year at the close of their accounts, in approval thereof;—a valuable collection entirely at the disposal of lineal descendants who may care for photographic reproductions.

* * *

Not much remains to be done in Vermont. From 1760 to 1830 practically every branch of the eastern family of Rhodes sent one or more of its members to the Vermont frontier. They were quickly isolated and lost communication with parental firesides. The second and third generations pushed to more remote western frontiers, all eastern ties were broken, and ancestral knowledge lost. Later gen-

erations, awakened to an interest in family history, pursuing the thread of their descent through the past, were disheartened on reaching Vermont by the confusion of so many different families of the same name and, as a rule, abandoned the search. Gradually the confusion is being cleared away and a clean genealogical trail opened from the western frontiers to the New England firesides.

The writer spent two months of 1919 touring Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York, searching town, county, Church, cemetery and probate records of the Rhodes family. In the State of Vermont, every known record of the above character was examined and transcripts made of all pertinent matter. Less complete work was done in the remaining states, but a very large amount of material, as yet unclassified, was secured.

* * *

From Mr. Samuel N. Rhoads, one of America's most celebrated botanists and collector of rare books, we have received a number of parchment deeds, originals, covering Rhodes family transactions in England from 1538 to 1650, also some volumes from the library of John Rhodes, of London, from one to two hundred years old. Mr. Rhoads is descended from line No. 3, John, of Wingreaves. He is the owner of the old "Franklin" Bookshop, of Philadelphia.

THE SPELLING OF THE NAME

The following forms have been found in various records, to-wit: Rod, Rode, Rods, Rodes, Road, Roads, Roades, Rhode, Rhod, Rhods, Rhodes, Rhoad, Rhoades, Rood, Roods, Rodez, de Rodez. Many of these forms result from lack of education on the part of record makers, others to corruptions made to meet the fancy of individuals. The original ancestors of all the various branches of the family spelled it Rod, Rods, Rode or Rodes. Many theories have been advanced to account for the origin of the name. No one theory yet advanced can satisfy all the considerations involved, but the Rhodes books, when published, will give the various arguments and such tangible proofs as exist.

COATS OF ARMS AND CRESTS

With the next number we will begin publishing the various coats-of-arms and crests employed by various branches of the family in the past, together with their history and a discussion of authorities for their use.

In the same number publication will be begun of the final genealogy of the various branches of the family.

And it was North Carolina that accounted for the greatest number of the Rhodes family prior to 1850. In that state much work is to be done and the working elements are few. Early records were largely lost and information must be sought from private sources. The Carolina family consists largely of descendants from one source—the original immigrant, and the confusion of family lines is not so great as in other states.

Miss Mary A. Rhoades, of Los Angeles, has contributed some very extensive notes and family statistics of an important branch of the Carolina descendants which opens the way to interesting fields of investigation in that state.

EXTRA NUMBERS OF THE BULLETIN

Numbers of the Bulletin thus far published may be had as follows: Number one; fifteen cents per copy; number two, twenty-five cents per copy; number three, twenty cents per copy. A limited number of full sets are still available at fifty cents for the three copies.

THE PRESENT GENERATION

Progress of the campaign for securing communication with the living members of the family points strongly to the conclusion that not less than fifty thousand living members exist in the country, about ten thousand of adult age. Communication is now had with one thousand adult members, representing about five thousand persons of all ages.

Readers of the Bulletin are urged to an examination of telephone and other directories, and every other available means of securing names for transmittal to this office. You are likewise urged to send biographies of all known persons bearing the name.



Line No. 3, John Rhodes, of Wingreaves

A CENTENARY FIRM OF THE RHODES FAMILY

J. E. Rhoads & Sons—Tanners
Philadelphia, founded in 1702

John Rhoads, of Derbyshire, England, came to America in 1699, with his youngest son Joseph, and purchased land in Marple Township, Delaware County (then Chester County), Pennsylvania. On his death, in 1791, he left this land to his son Joseph, who according to family tradition, established a tanyard thereon in 1702.

(1732) Joseph Rhoads died in 1732 and his widow, Abigail Owen Rhoads, continued the business with the help of her youngest son, James. An ancient ledger in the possession of Miss Caroline N. Rhoads, of Bryn Mawr, is full of transactions in hides, bark and leather, on the part of Joseph Rhoads and his widow. In this we find an entry as early as 1723.

(1743) On coming of age, in 1743, James Rhoads inherited the tanning business, as shown by court records referring to the division of his father's estate.

(1778) On the death of James Rhoads, in 1778, his son Joseph Rhoads, succeeded to the business. The present Joseph Rhoads, brother of the members of this firm, has in his possession a ledger covering business transactions of Joseph Rhoads, 2nd, in bark, hides and leather, from 1784 to his death.

(1809) Joseph Rhoads, 2nd, died in 1809, leaving the tanning business to his sons, George and Joseph Rhoads—Joseph being the grandfather of the present members of the firm. They carried on the business on the same site until 1861, when it was taken over by Jonathan E. Rhoads, son of Joseph, who carried it on until 1868, when he sold the old homestead and tannery.

(1868) The ancestral tanning business was continued by Jonathan E. Rhoads in a tannery purchased by him in Wilmington, Delaware.

(1877) Jonathan E. Rhoads went into business with Thomas McComb, as the firm of Rhoads and McComb, and engaged in currying and the manufacture of leather belting. Near this time he sold his tannery.

(1887) The firm of Rhoads and McComb was dissolved and Jonathan E. Rhoads took into partnership, in the same business, his son, John B. Rhoads, under the firm name of J. E. Rhoads and Sons.

(1888) Another son, George A. Rhoads, entered the firm.

(1889) The firm of J. E. Rhoads and Sons opened a store at 229 North Third Street, Philadelphia, John B. Rhoads having charge.

(1890) The store was removed to 229 Market Street.

(1893) The store was removed to 239 Market Street.

(1894) In 1894, a third son, William E. Rhoads, was admitted to the firm, and a year or two later the headquarters of the business was removed to Philadelphia, W. E. Rhoads taking charge of the department of credit and finance, while John B. Rhoads managed the selling department and G. A. Rhoads the factory at Wilmington, Delaware.

(1906) A branch store was opened in New York City.

(1907) Under this arrangement the business grew and prospered, until it was necessary to find larger quarters at 12 North Third Street, the present location.

(1909) A branch store was opened in Chicago.

(1911) On September 20, the firm met with a severe loss in the death of John B. Rhoads.

(1914) Jonathan E. Rhoads, though remaining a partner, had not actively participated in the management of the business because of his advancing years. On September 14, 1914, after a life full of years of useful service, Jonathan E. Rhoads, then in his eighty-fifth year, was gathered to his eternal reward.

(1915) The business is still prospering in the hands of George A. and William E. Rhoads.

Line No. 7, John Rhodes, of Providence, Rhode Island

Regarding the ancestry of this line historical record is clear and no question has ever been raised. The old stone marking the grave of the immigrant is located in the cemetery at Westerly, Rhode Island, and carries the inscription: "Here lies the Bodye John Rhodes, Esq., who d. March 3, 1746, ae. 75, grandson of Sir Godfrey, of Yorkshire." His descent is shown in full in Volume i, No. 2. His descendants have a record remarkable for professional and military distinction. Prominent as defenders of the Crown prior to the Revolution, they gave the force of their influence and men to the cause and struggle for independence and have had military representatives in every subsequent war of the country.

Major General Charles Dudley Rhodes, of the General Staff College, at Washington, has achieved a distinction in the late war which should bring a thrill of pride to every bearer of the name in this country. As a result of his services, he was made a Knight Commander of the Bath by Great Britain, at the close of the war. Thus have the responsibilities of Knighthood conferred by Britain on his ancestors been satisfied through the descendant after more than four centuries.

He graduated from the Columbian University, Washington, D. C., in 1885, and from the United States Military Academy, in 1889. He later became an Honor Graduate of the School of the Line at Fort Leavenworth, and of the General Staff College at Washington. He served in various grades of the cavalry and the staff, through the Sioux Indian War of 1890-91, the Spanish War, the Boxer Rebellion in China, the Philippine Insurrection and the World War, in which latter war he reached the grade of Major General, and commanded the 42nd (Rainbow) Division.

For gallantry in action in the Philippine Insurrection, he was awarded by his Government the Distinguished Service Cross; for distinguished conduct in the World War, the Distinguished Service Medal by his own Government, the Order of Knight Commander of the Bath by Great Britain, and the Order of Commander of the Legion of Honor by France,—the two last being on account of services as High Commissioner of the United States to the Permanent International Armistice Commission, at Spa, Belgium.

Major General Rhodes' line of descent is:

I. FRANCIS RHODES.

Justice Court of Common Pleas, reign of Queen Elizabeth, 1585-1591.

m. (1) **Elizabeth Sanford.** From this union came the "Bellair" line with its entailed estates. Also the Barony of "Barlboro" and its estates and the Sturton line which gave us our Maryland and Virginia families, to be given in a later number.

m. (2) **Mary Charlton,** and had amongst others:

- II. Sir Godfrey Rhodes (his sister Elizabeth m. the Earl of Stafford).
- III. Sir Edward Rhodes, who had
- IV. John Rhodes, of Rhode Island, who had
- V. Captain Simon Rhodes, who had
- VI. Simon Rhodes, who had
- VII. Dudley Woodbridge Rhodes, who had
- VIII. Dudley Woodbridge Rhodes, who had
- IX. Charles Dudley Rhodes.

ARMS:

RHODES OF GREAT HOUGHTON

Arms—Argent, a lion passant guardant gules inclosed by two acorns between two bendlets azure, cotised ermines.

Crest—A cubit arm holding a branch of acorns or, or fruited azure.



NEW ZEALAND BRANCH

William, brother of John (IV), above, sent one grandson, William, to New Zealand where he established a long line. William's brother, Benjamin, came to America. The New Zealand family has

ARMS:

RHODES OF NEW ZEALAND—KIPPAX

Arms—Azure, on a bend wavy argent plain calisted or, a lion's gamb proper between two acorns of the field.

Crest—A dexter arm erect, vested azure cuffed argent, charged with an acorn or, and grasping a fern sapling of New Zealand eradicated proper.



EUGENE MANLOVE RHODES

A most interesting historical line has been developed in recent months in New Jersey. The original ancestor of it has not been found but it was closely related to the Quaker line of the late 1600, and is believed to have come from Pennsylvania, John of Wingreaves. It furnished a lineage of good men, active and patriotic, who left many marks of their existence in the State of New Jersey.

A living descendant of this line of Eugene Manlove Rhodes, the author, who was born in Nebraska, in 1869, son of Hlnman and Julla (Manlove) Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes has been extraordinarily successful in the writing of stories of the West. Certainly no living writer has equaled his portrayal of Western character and customs, and the charming romance and fiction which he uses as a means of communicating these ideals to his readers is of the most charming and literary character. Those who have not already read his "Good Men and True," his "Brandsford in Arcadia" and his many stories of the West, have a real pleasure before them.

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WILLIAM HENRY RHODES

To those not already acquainted with his writings, it is a pleasure to introduce the subject of this paragraph, who was born in North Carolina in 1822, a son of Col. E. A. Rhodes, a Consul to the Republic of Texas during a most interesting period of history. His works are now rare and very much appreciated. Our readers will enjoy his "Indian Callows" and other poems and many of his other writings published through the Caxton's Book, San Francisco, 1876. He was killed by robbers in California in 1852.

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SAMUEL RHOADES—STATESMAN

A product of the line of John, of Wingreaves, the subject of this paragraph is one of the most prominent men of the name participating in the affairs of the Revolutionary period. He was a member of the Continental Congress. He was born in Philadelphia, and was a grandson of John Rhodes the immigrant. In early life he was a carpenter by trade and became a wealthy builder in the city of Philadelphia where he was member of the city council, and was later mayor of that city. The historical articles of which he is made the subject are most interesting and may be found in the historical archives of Pennsylvania and most of the standard libraries.

CORNELIA HARSEN RHODES

No better display of character has been found in the descendants from Rhodes ancestors than through the life of this authoress. Daughter of John Harsen and Annie G. Rhodes, misfortune took her eyesight in infancy. She received thorough classical education at her home, through the "Point" system, learned to operate a typewriter and engaged in authorship. Her stories, mostly written for young people, are amongst the most popular of those published by American writers. She has been a prolific writer and not a story of all she has written but will engage the entranced attention of the reader, regardless of their age. Our readers are advised to become acquainted with her "Only Dollie," "The Children on the Top Floor," "The Little Girl Next Door," "Silver Linings," Polly's Predicament," "How Barbara Kept Her Promise," "Victorine's Book," "Little Queen Esther" and many others. She wrote under the name of "Nina Rhodes." She was born in New York City in 1863 and is descended from Henry Rhodes, of Lynn.

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WILLIAM CALDWELL PLUNKETT RHOADES

None of the branches of the Rhodes family have been without their chaplain, prominent clergymen having been common to most of the lines and having preached many faiths, but all with an inspiration which seems to have left its mark upon the generation regardless of religious differences of opinion. The subject of this sketch was born in New York in 1845, a descendant of Henry, of Lynn. Educational honors came to him as a student and afterwards as a worker in many of the standard colleges of the country. He filled many pulpits, preaching from Ohio to Brooklyn, New York, where his pastorage was long and of a very notable character. Many of his sermons are to be found in theological and other libraries of the country.

* * * *

BRADFORD RHODES

Few branches of the family are without their bankers, notable of that calling is Bradford Rhodes, born in Pennsylvania in 1849, who for many years edited the Rhodes Journal of Banking; active in financial affairs first of Pennsylvania and later of New York, he became one of the authorities on national finance. His writings on this subject are to be found in most of the libraries.

* * * *

JOHN HARSEN RHODES

Of equal note in the banking and investment world was John Harsen Rhodes, born in New York City in 1869, who married Annie Gardner Wheelwright. Conservative in banking, a close adherent to the New England idea of honor and exactitude, his principles were impressed upon the financial circles of the east in which he was a moving spirit for so many years. His mantle fell upon his son, of the same name, who is following closely in the footsteps of his father.

* * * *

JAMES FORD RHODES

To the Zachariah line we are indebted for the greatest living historian in the United States. He was born in Ohio and after a preliminary education in that state was a student at the University of Chicago, University of the City of New York, traveled extensively abroad, studying in Paris and Berlin, afterward engaging in the iron industry. He has been a prolific writer of American history and has been honored by most of the historical and literary societies of the United States and foreign countries as a result of his literary productions. His "History of the United States from the Compromise of 1850," in four volumes, was awarded the Loubat Prize of 3000 marks by the Berlin Academy of Science.

One of his most interesting historical works was a volume issued during the present war covering the period of our Civil War history. Read them all.

* * * *

And so we might go on indefinitely with introduction of men and women of the name who have had their part in the varied affairs that have gone to make up the great commonwealth of the United States, but such is not the purpose of these Bulletins and the above short sketches are only given to stimulate the attention of those members of the family who have not heretofore come in contact with the works of its representative members. They are given with the assurance that, with every new acquaintance they make from amongst the active working members of the family, new interest in the subject of their history will be developed, and historical contributions will come to our hands for use in compiling the complete history.

COMPLETED WORK

The compilation of the Rhodes Family History has progressed to the following point, to-wit:

First—About forty volumes of 200 pages each, letter-size and typewritten, "Rhodes Notes," have been completed, bound and indexed.

Second—One volume of organized genealogy of the descendants of Henry Rhodes, of Lynn, about 1000 pages, has been completed and the work is not finished.

Third—One volume of about 500 pages of organized genealogy of the descendants of Zachariah Rhodes, of Rhode Island, has been completed; work not finished.

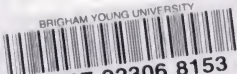
Fourth—Six volumes of from 100 to 200 pages each of organized genealogy of the families of John of Wingreaves, Rhodes (Rodes) of Virginia, Rhodes of North Carolina, John Rhodes of Providence, Alexander Rhodes of Connecticut and John Rhodes of Scarsdale, New York.

URGENTLY NEEDED

Rhodes addresses, dates, places and biography—of every living Rhodes, regardless of age or line. Consult your local directories and those of other places accessible to you, both telephone and commercial, and let me have the lists.

Also old records, deeds, photographs, transcripts of bibles, coats-of-arms, traditions and personal contributions of historical matter. Stories of old family houses are interesting and useful.

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